

May 1/2/4, 1947



Annual Spring Festival
INLAND CHILDREN'S CHORUS

THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

THURSDAY, MAY 1st . . 8:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, MAY 2nd . . . 8:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 4th . . 2:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M.



Annual Spring Festival by the
INLAND CHILDREN'S CHORUS

PROGRAM

- 1 INTRODUCTION Mr. J. D. O'Brien
- 2 CHORUS
- (a) "Italian Street Song" from "Naughty Marietta"
..... Victor Herbert
 - (b) "Without A Song" from "Great Day"
..... Vincent Youmans
 - (c) "One Alone" from "The Desert Song"
..... Sigmund Romberg
 - (d) "My Hero" from "The Chocolate Soldier"
..... Oscar Straus
 - (e) "Ol' Man River" from "Show Boat"
..... Jerome Kern

INTERMISSION

- 3 CHORUS
- (a) "Old King Cole" Cecil Forsyth
 - (b) "April Showers" Louis Silvers
 - (c) "Smilin' Through" Arthur A. Penn
 - (d) "Swinging On A Star" Jimmy Van Heusen

RICHARD WESTBROCK, Director

Mary Werner MacCash, at the Organ

Isabel Herbst, Pianist

Children's Chorus Concert Warmth, Freshness Mark

BY BETTY A. DIETZ

Daily News Music Critic

A series of spring programs at the Dayton Art Institute by the Inland Children's chorus for plant employes and their families has become a tradition in the 11 years since the chorus was organized. That the group has lived up to its aims—to teach the children to appreciate good music, to give them an understanding of the words "discipline" and "team work"—was evidenced by Thursday's concert.

Friday at 8 p. m. and twice Sunday, the children will resume their places on the platform.

As J. D. O'Brien, general manager of the General Motors division, who introduced the singers, pointed out, the deep interest of the parents in the progress of the chorus has paid big dividends.

The current spring festival, in contrast to the chorus' Christmas and Easter programs, is made up entirely of music of a popular nature, including a few excerpts

from Straus and Romberg operettas. And the children, under the direction of Richard Westbrook, sing them as beautifully as they do their more serious programs. They inject warmth and appeal and freshness into songs that have undergone far less kindly treatment on more than one occasion. And they sing as one,

their attacks clear and definite, their diction precise—thanks to the efforts of their director.

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THE SURPRISINGLY mature voice of Shirley Jones touched off Thursday's concert with the chorus supporting her in the gay Italian Street Song from Herbert's *Naughty Marietta*. Other soloists who gave excellent accountings of themselves were David Cordonnier, who set forth the solo passages in *One Alone* from Romberg's *Desert Song*, and Bill Clingman, who sang *Old Man River* and *Smiling Through*. The arrangement of the Romberg song, incidentally, was a particularly effective one.

Second half of the program included Cecil Forsyth's delightful *Old King Cole*, which made interesting use of a boys trio. A trio of girls was featured in the more than appropriate *April Showers*. Final number on the printed program was *Swinging on a Star*.

The Prayer from *Hansel and Gretel* served as recessional for the young singers who wore their traditional costumes—the girls in long blue gowns and the boys in Eton suits. Westbrook included under his direction Thursday night Organist Mary Werner MacCash and Pianist Isabel Herbst, who provided sympathetic accompaniments.